

# *The* Young Worker

Official Organ of The Young Worker's League



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# THE YOUNG WORKER

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## "Corrupting the Youth."

"WHAT'S all the shootin' for?" was the big question in Geo. M. Cohan's play, "The Tavern." We, too, feel constrained to ask that question—for there has been a lot of oral and written shootin' at us lately. In fact, it is really flattering to think of such a small organization as ours being given such wide publicity.

The American Legion has seen fit to deal with our movement at some length in their official organ. The reply to them is contained in another part of this issue. Now comes the "Boston Transcript" with a series of articles on "The Reds in America," and again the Young Workers League is brought into the limelight. It seems as though we have been corrupting the schools, the colleges and all higher institutions of learning. Shades of Socrates! We are working under secret instructions from Moscow, and by our mysterious yet subtle ways have become a serious menace to American democracy.

The "Transcript" prints in full a circular on the United Front of Juvenile Labor, sent out by the Y. C. I. as a sample of the kind of thing we are trying to do—to unite all workers, young and old, in a common struggle against further capitalist aggression. Yes, we must plead guilty. WE ARE FOR A UNITED FRONT OF ALL WORKERS. We take this opportunity to thank the "Boston Transcript" for giving this circular such wide publicity. We feel sure the Y. C. I. will do the same.

We are also accused of being mere tools of the Young Communist League of America. From our own limited knowledge of the Young Workers League it seems to be determining its own policies pretty well—but if those expressed by the Young Communist League of this country, as reprinted in the Young Worker in the September and October issues are more or less similar to ours, so much the better for us. We are frank to admit that the YOUNG COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL is the only international of youth that has made real progress, and which is out to fight in the interests of the working class youth. We agree with them upon many points—particularly in that revolutionists must work and not merely talk.

There is a considerable bit of sensationalism to the article—as can be expected. We are making headway—that is certain, but it is not through round-about methods. We are frank to state our position and always have been. We are for the workers first, last and all the time. And just as much as we are for the workers, we are against the capitalist class. It is not individuals—but the SYSTEM that we are opposed to.

The Klu Klux Klan, that most holy of holiness which has only the American Legion as competitor for the role of being 100 per cent American (man hunter) in its outlook, has announced a war against the radical forces in the United States.

A proclamation (it should be called a Bull, like papal proclamations, for that is what it really is) announces that its investigators have "uncovered an organized effort to disrupt national unity and to undermine the morals of American youth," etc. It has dug deep and there far underneath was found "the hairy slaw" of Bolshevism, Socialism, Syndicalism, I. W. W.-ism and other isms destructive to the American system of government. We, too, have been investigating a bit—and discovered another ism which the Klan has failed to mention, namely—CAPITALISM. Or is that simply one of the other "isms" which they forgot to mention. We wonder?

It will be interesting to read their startling revelations. And ye editor is willing to bet a silk hat to a plug nickel that the Young Workers League is going to be mentioned as one of those organizations that seeks to corrupt the youth. Maybe they refer to the Young Men's Christian Association—we have heard rumors that all was not well in that quarter—but again we feel confident in predicting that the Y. M. C. A. will not be condemned.

With Red Raids again the fashion of the day it is necessary to work up the people to an undying hatred toward those class-conscious workers who seek to unite the disorganized forces of labor. As for those who dare be impudent enough to organize the youth—woe unto them, for they are treading upon dangerous ground! The master class cannot allow the young to be weaned away from them. When that day comes the bell will toll, for capitalism will have passed away.

## Is This Not Murder!

ANXIOUSLY the women and children awaited the news of the progress of the rescue crews as they worked feverishly in the Argonaut gold mine, cutting away the stone in order to reach the forty-seven miners who were caught deep in the mine by fire. They stood there, poorly clad, these women and children, crying till their eyes were swollen through their tears. The rescue crews—workers all—risked their lives in a vain attempt to save their fellow workers. Finally, after three weeks the rescuers were able to reach the miners and they were all found—dead. Forty-seven miners dead. Another crime added to the long list against the working class. Such is the price the workers pay for the greed of the capitalists.

According to James Bruce, a miner who knows the Argonaut mine from top to bottom, the cause of the fire was the neglect on the part of the company properly to inspect and repair the high voltage wires in the mine. This negligence was the direct cause of the fire that trapped the forty-seven members of the working class almost a mile beneath the surface of the earth.

The report of the Industrial Relations Committee, appointed by ex-President Woodrow Wilson, shows that more men and women are killed and injured each year in industry than were killed and wounded throughout the entire civil war. The mad desire of the capitalists to make the maximum of profits at the minimum cost leads them to forget the safety devices that would save the lives of many workers. Such is capitalism. All for profit and no concern for those who make profit possible.

How much longer will we have to stand for this? We have not forgotten the Triangle shirtwaist factory fire in Brooklyn, N. Y., where hundreds of working girls were killed due to the utter neglect of the state fire laws by the owners. Every page of the history of the working class under capitalism drips with the blood of those murdered because some capitalist desired to make more profits at the risk of the workers' lives.

(Continued on page 15).



# Yesterday-Today-Tomorrow

By O. CARLSON

**Y**ESTERDAY was dark and dreary, cold and wet. Mighty Russia, with its double headed eagle, stretched from the Baltic sea to the Pacific Ocean, from the frozen steppes and the arctic nights to the blistering heat of Persia. And from one end of the country to the other was darkness and despair for the multitude of the people.

Yesterday the knout and lash were the everyday instruments to hasten the peasant in his toil, as he sowed, tilled or reaped the crops on the broad acres of his master, or the city worker as he tended the machine.

Yesterday — that long, long yesterday of centuries of oppression.

Yesterday the Czars, the dukes, and the aristocracy were living a life of carnal pleasure. With "Wine, Women and Song" as their motto, their debaucheries would almost put a Hollywood to shame. And while they feasted, the poor, hungry, stupid masses were pressed down deeper, ever deeper.

Yesterday the great mass was illiterate. It could neither read nor write. It looked upon the "little father" as as God—a veritable Jehovah, great and grand in all his majesty, who would punish in a most terrible fashion anyone who dared to think or act in any way contrary to his mandates, or to those of his officials. That was a time when the Russian people were mere cattle for the master class. Their sons were used as cannon fodder in the many wars that were needed to extend the territories of the Empire. Their daughters — if they were pretty — were ruthlessly taken to satisfy the sexual orgies of the nobility, the officers, or the sons of the wealthy.

At that time, too, the children were given no opportunity to study nor to play. In the midst of filthy surroundings they had to spend their days and nights. As soon as it was possible, they, too, were forced to work, since the mere pittance obtained by the father and mother was in no way sufficient to give them even the bare necessities of such a crude life.

Yesterday the picture that Edwin Markham gives us of the "Man With the Hoe" was a truthful picture of the Russian peasant. See him:

Bowed by the weight of centuries he leans  
Upon his hoe and gazes on the ground,  
The emptiness of ages in his face,  
And on his back the burden of the world.  
Who made him dead to rapture and despair,  
A thing that grieves not and that never hopes,  
Stolid and stunned, a brother to the ox?  
Who loosened and let down this brutal jaw?  
Whose was the hand that slanted back his brow?  
Whose breath blew out the light within this brain?

\* \* \*

What gulfs between him and the seraphim!  
Slave of the wheel of labor, what to him  
Are Plato and the swing of Pleiades?  
What the long reaches of the peaks of song,  
The rift of dawn, the reddening of the rose?  
Through this dread shape the suffering ages look;  
Time's tragedy is in that aching stoop;  
Through this dread shape humanity betrayed  
Plundered, profaned and disinherited,  
Cries protest to the Judges of the World,  
A protest that is also prophecy.

Yesterday those few brave men and women, who dared to raise their voices in protest against the ter-

rible conditions imposed upon the workers in that country, were thrown into foul dungeons, shot or beaten to death, or sent away to the mines of Siberia. The Cossack's whip or sabre were freely used to subdue and exterminate the evergrowing number of revolutionists.

Yesterday the great novelists of Russia, the dramatists of Russia, the composers of Russia — all, all of them told in story, play or song the despair, the suffering of the people. Nor could it be otherwise.

Yesterday the battalions of the Czar were marching against Germany and Austria — with millions of them never to return. Yesterday — that day of the World War — the suffering millions clamored for bread, for land, for peace — and since it was not given to them by Czarist Russia, they turned upon their rulers, their masters, determined to rid themselves of that parasitic class which had held them in subjection for so many years. From that moment on began — TODAY.

TODAY the workers and peasants of Russia are their own dictators. Today, without experience, confused, and in their large majority still illiterate, they have undertaken to create a Workers' Republic.

Today they are building schools instead of battle-ships and forts.

Today they are replacing the old antiquated methods of agriculture with new and scientific ones. The sickle is giving way to the threshing machine, the old hand plow to the tractor.

Today, they are tearing down the wretched hovels which were formerly called homes for the poor, and are instead using the former mansions of the rich, till they can build new, comfortable, and scientifically arranged homes for all.

Today they are fighting a mighty famine — not by appealing to their gods for aid but by removing all who can be taken away from those districts into others where the plight is not so bad; by establishing food stations in all parts of the famine area, and in conjunction with them, hospitals and first-aid stations; by sowing as much grain as possible in the famine regions; and by introducing better methods of cultivation and harvesting.

Today they are wiping out illiteracy among the adults at a surprising rate. Already the entire Red Army is 100 per cent literate. The children are being given every opportunity for education that can be offered. They are the very first to be cared for. Religion, "the opium of the people," is being replaced by a scientific understanding of natural laws, of cause and effect not only in the realms of the organic and inorganic world, but also in the realm of sociology.

Today Russia's workers are undertaking to electrify their industries; to have them functioning in the most efficient manner, and placed in such parts of the country where they can operate best for the whole country.

Russia's workers are interested not merely in the question of food, clothing and shelter. They are creating their own art, literature, music, drama. The old songs of suffering and oppression are giving way to the songs of joy, happiness and renewed life. The literature and drama, too, are sounding a new note.



Today — the five years of today, beginning with November 7, 1917, have been years of struggle, famine, war, counter-revolution, but above all, they have been years of progress, progress in spite of every attempt to block, to check, to discourage them by the capitalist nations of the world.

Today — the workers of Russia are not striving to build up a nationalistic barrier, but to be real internationalists. They are calling upon the workers of all countries to profit by their example. They say to them: "We must not let fictitious boundaries keep us apart, not the fact that we speak different languages. The fundamental proposition is this: we are all workers, with brawn or brain. We produce the wealth of the world. Whatever is to the interest of us as workers is not to the interest of the bosses, the capitalists. For many hundreds of years, we suffered under their cruel yoke of oppression. But that is no longer the case. We are striving to build a new world, where only those who work shall eat. Our task was a hard one — for we were the first to make the attempt. We were weak, and had to learn through the school of hard experience. Already after but five years, we are on the highway to success. But that success can never be fully achieved till you, the workers of all other countries, unite with us in the task to rid the world of useless parasites. Join us, workers, young and old, for unless you take the power into your hands, your lot will become worse, and ever worse."

Today means much to the Russian youth. He lives. He breathes. He plays. He works. He, the future ruler of that great commonwealth, is made aware of the full importance of his position. Everything that can be done to make of him a keen-minded, intelligent as well as a physically strong being is done. The Russians say (even as it is said in every other country), "The Future belongs to the Young" but their policy is to make worthy citizens of their youngsters. Not that alone, they want to train them so that they will continue the work and accelerate the progress of the nation — and the world.

The future looks bright to the Russian youth — and he is full of hope, enthusiasm, and vitality. But the young of Germany, Austria, England, and even of this country — what have they got — and what can they look forward to? They have poverty-stricken parents; little to eat; get a schooling until a job can be found for them. Their days are days of neglect, of fear, of hunger, and of work. The European child knows this much, that conditions have been getting worse and worse at home. Even in this country (supposedly so much better) has a vast percentage of school children been going to school hungry every day in the year. Child labor too, is growing by leaps and bounds.

Our heritage is a system of slavery, oppression, disease, crime. The citizens of tomorrow in our country are the consumptive, weak children of today. A fine citizenry, indeed, who even now must say:

There's a haunting horror near us  
That nothing drives away;  
Fierce lamping eyes at nightfall,  
A crouching shade by day;  
There's a whining at the threshold,  
There's a scratching at the floor,  
To work! To work! In Heaven's name!  
The wolf is at the door!  
The day was long, the night was short,  
The bed was hard and cold;  
Still weary are the little ones,  
Still weary are the old.

We are weary in our cradles  
From our mother's toil untold;  
We are born to hoarded weariness  
As some to hoarded gold.

It was such a system as ours which led the poet to exclaim:

Dear, in the English country,  
The hatefulest land on earth,  
The mothers are starved and the children die  
And death is better than birth!

But will it always be so? If Russia has been able to break with the past, surely we can do so. It depends, to a large extent upon the young. Shall they be content with conditions as they are? Are they satisfied to live in the swampy lands of Yesterday, when there is firm land ahead?

They must answer the question that has been put to them by their Russian comrades — and we believe they will answer it in the affirmative. May the Fifth Anniversary of the Russian Revolution encourage and steady them in their undertaking!

**TOMORROW** — Glorious tomorrow, when the sun shines upon a world of peace, happiness and contentment. Tomorrow the world will have followed in the path of those pioneers, — the Russian workers and peasants. The kings and crowns, the financial oligarchies, the industrial magnates, the peddlers of mental chloroform, and the thousand and one persons and institutions which are now used to keep the workers and their children in the chains of wage-slavery will be mere memories. The enlightened people of tomorrow will shudder at the thought of the conditions under which we are living.

Russia! You are living in Today and moving toward a new dawn. But, we are still living in the Yesterday. You have shown us the way. We, too, shall follow, ready to emerge from the Yesterday into Today — and side by side with you we shall follow the road towards TOMORROW.

## A Worker-Soldier Writes Us

Minneapolis, Minn.,  
October 1, 1922.

Have been watching with great interest your work in behalf of your organization and take this means of commending your wonderful efforts. Such spirit as I see manifested by members of the Young Workers League cannot fail of accomplishment. It is to be exceedingly regretted that all of the workers involved in the class struggle cannot grasp the significance and importance of affiliating with organizations that really stand for the complete emancipation of the masses.

The writer has endeavored to co-operate with the Young Workers League at all times and will continue to do so in the future, whenever possible.

Like your organization, the World War Veterans are ever hopeful that the day is not far distant when those who continuously oppress and browbeat the workers will be swept from power and their places filled with men and women who will carry out the wishes of the proletariat.

LESLIE R. HURT,  
Natl. Dir. of Publ., World War Veterans, Inc.



# Why a United Front of Young Workers

*Young Communist International Explains Basis  
Underlying Call for World Congress of Youth.*

**B**EHIND the call of the Young Communist International for a United Front of the Young Workers of the world is a long chain of defeats suffered by the working class as a whole following the world war. The purpose of the United Front is to rally all the young workers, regardless of political affiliation, against the onslaughts of capitalism.

In a document just issued by the Young Communist International is clearly pointed out the reasons why all young workers should join in the demand for a united front, not only for the working class youth, but the entire working-class. The complete statement of the Young Communist International follows:

The Young Communist International, which has always fought for the interests of the young proletariat, has invited the organizations of the young workers to participate in a World Congress of Young Workers with the view to resisting the onslaught of capitalism.

The young workers desire this congress to take place; their situation demands it. The offensive launched by capitalism in order that it might overcome the crisis caused by the war has had special effect upon the young workers. Their weakness is equalled by the weakness of their organizations and from this capitalism profits shamefully.

In the United States, one million young workers, around 14 years of age enter industry every year, at the miserably low wage of \$4.30 per week on the average. With no protective organizations, the conditions of the young workers in this country daily grows unbearable. Unemployment and low wages leaves its scars most deeply on the young workers here. In England the young workers are forced into the productive process for starvation wages. The adult workers are either unemployed or on strike. In Germany, with the help of the Ebert-government (Socialist), capitalism is lengthening the already long working hours to 54 hours per week. In Austria, the apprentices can no longer buy clothes. In Czechoslovakia, following the industrial crisis, the employers have thrown the young workers to starve on the streets. These are some of the results of the offensive of capitalism. Everywhere misery, everywhere hunger—and the greatest victims of all are the young workers.

But this is not everything. Capitalism has only one means of overcoming the great economic crisis: Greater exploitation of the workers, wage-cuts, lengthening of working hours, either by persuasion or by force. To gain its ends it has used its military power. Each strike shows us the proletariat being assassinated by the armies of capitalism. The recent injunction against the rail strikers is an American example of this. And in the ranks of these armies are young workers. It is they who execute the orders of capitalism against their working brothers. In Europe, practically destroyed by the imperialist war, militarism

is all powerful. In its armies are thousands of young workers. Why?

To acquire new colonies!

The colonial armies of France, of Spain and of England are being used against the peoples of Syria, Morocco and India. The French army is in permanent occupation of Germany in order to enslave the vanquished — everywhere to crush the proletariat.

Militarism ranges the young workers serving in its ranks against the working class. In throwing slaves against slaves, whites against the colored races, young against old, they realize their Machiavellian plan of maintaining their power whilst increasing their profits.

This must cease!

The young workers are unanimous in this demand. Their sporadic activities show this, here by a strike in the schools, there by a mutiny in the army, by manifestations against war. Unfortunately all these struggles have not given results in accordance with the efforts made. A remedy is needed. And the Young Communist International suggests the only one possible — united front of the young workers and the working class. The Young Communist International has taken the first step towards realizing this, by convoking a world congress of young workers, whose aims shall be: To present a picture of the misery of the young workers, of their exploitation in the mines, factories and on the land, and its life in the barracks and military camps.

To find the means of fighting this exploitation and militarism with the aid of all the young workers of the world.

To formulate a list of the demands of the working class youth.

To reassemble the scattered forces of the working class youth.

To form a united fighting front of the young workers, to take its place in the fighting front of the proletariat.

These are the fundamental tasks of the congress and to it the Young Communist International invites all young workers whatever may be their opinions and their tendencies. The world congress of young workers will be the work and the property of the exploited youth; for entry into this congress only one condition has been made by the Young Communist International: "the will to defence against capitalist exploitation." No discussions as to the program, no formulations of ends and aims, nothing of this kind, only immediate struggle and fight against the exploiters.

Young workers, fight in your organizations for participation in the world congress.

By your ardor force your leaders, who have repulsed the Communists, into action.

Draw in the indifferent young workers.

Young worker, make your first efforts for the fight against exploitation by propagating the idea of the world congress in factory, mill and mine.



# The Young Workers League Is Discovered!

By MARTIN ABERN and PAUL STEVENS

**I**N the August 18th issue of the "American Legion Weekly," official mouthpiece of the American Legion, there appears a somewhat lengthy article, purporting to dissect the Young Workers' League. It is entitled: "America's Youth and the Reds." "Radical agitation, stepping down off the soap box, carries on in subtler guise on an impressionable front," blurts out a large-type sub-head, as if undoubtedly scared by the recent development of the radical movement because of the growing critical aspect of the economic conditions of the workers.

Particularly, the writer in the "Weekly," James E. Darst, is disturbed by the efforts of the "reds" to gain the support of the working youth. He starts in by quoting the article by Rose Pastor Stokes, which was printed in the May issue of the "Young Worker." Therein is pointed out to a boy scout (the child of a worker), who in conversation says, "It's my country; ain't I got to fight for my country some time?" — that for workers under capitalism there is no country that they can call their own.

## Ownership of the United States.

Who own this country? Ninety per cent of the people in the United States control less of the wealth of the nation than does one per cent of a particular class. And they rule the nation who rule the industries. They even rule the American Legion. Of this more later.

Does the Legion know that:

- 65 per cent of the population own nothing;
- 15 per cent one thousand dollars, and under;
- 18 per cent two thousand dollars, and over;
- 2 per cent may be called rich, possessing \$50,000 or over.

Does the Legion think that these 65 per cent, for example, ought "to fight for their country sometime?"

When these facts are pointed out to the American youth, is it any wonder that they make an impression upon their minds? Is there anything subtle or magical about it, as the writer for the "Weekly" wishes to make out? Rather, it is common sense and the realization of fact. It is not radical agitation, which is arousing the workers of this country, but on the contrary, it is the increasing exploitation — lower wages, longer hours, more miserable working conditions — all of which fall even more heavily upon the shoulders of the young workers. Our education and agitation serve but to make the workers understand the reasons for these conditions and also show how to eliminate those causes.

## Who Uses Trickery and Fraud?

It is not the Workers League or the radical movement that needs to resort to trickery, or worse, (of which the Legion is guilty) to gain adherents or win the mind of the youth to its cause. We leave fraud and self-imposed law to the American Legion and its type. Facts, and the laws behind the facts, will serve our ends quite amply (social evolution, etc.)

It is significant to note throughout the entire article in the "Weekly," the writer fails even to attempt to refute any of the statements and opinions which are

given in the articles which he quotes. Mr. Darst is lost in holy horror to think that anyone can even contemplate changing the present social system of capitalism and the institutions born of it, say, such as the American government, that "government of the people, for the people and by the people," wherein 65 per cent of the people own nothing!

## Boy Scout Charges Unanswered.

Our "keen" investigator in the "Weekly" declares that the Young Workers League vents the full force of its denunciation on the boy and girl scout movements; but as to the truth or falsity of the charges he is as silent as the tomb.

For the benefit of the young workers, we reiterate a few of the facts concerning these incubators of white guards: The boy scouts are conspicuous in most strikes — on the side of the bosses; they work with the Chamber of Commerce in every city in which they are organized, directly and indirectly, in the agitation and installation of the scab "open shop" plan, or for other demands inimical to the interests of the working-class; the scouts are infused with cheap patriotism in the name of dollar-a-year Schwabs, who during the war cleaned up veritable fortunes; the boy scouts are "trained as soldiers, they are pervaded with the psychology of a soldier — obedience to their master, to the ruling class, to all their immediate 'superiors.'" The girls scouts and Y. M. C. A., insofar as their organizational structure permits, follow in the footsteps of the boy scouts in the fight against labor. And the Legion, of whom, no doubt, Mr. Darst thinks highly, speaking of what it is doing for Young America, says that it "backs and participates in the boy and girl scout movements."

William J. Burns, Director of the Bureau of "Investigation" of the Department of Justice (sic!), seems to be the source of a good many of Mr. Darst's "facts." Who does not remember the famous "Linde" case? It was Burns who melodramatically announced to the world that he had "discovered" the "plotters" behind the Wall Street bomb outrage. Linde, the "investigator," was in reality a fellow stool pigeon with Burns. Burns, no doubt, would be happy if the entire Linde episode were thrust into the bosom of oblivion and left to rest there forever. So much for the reliability of gum-shoe Burns upon whom Mr. Darst leans so much for support in his article.

## The Basis for Our Organization.

Why does any movement come into being? To fulfill an interest. The workers of this country, and especially the young, are being exploited as never before in the history of American capitalism. Over a million children around fourteen years of age yearly enter the factories of the capitalists. Secretary of Labor Davis states that 1,500,000 girls and boys, 10 to 15 years of age, in this country are employed, and that the number is steadily increasing. The United States, in proportion to its population, has a greater number of children at work producing profits than any other civilized nation, excluding China, Japan and India, and Mr. Darst, certainly, would not want to



class the United States, or even compare it with those "heathen" countries.

The writer, Darst, speaking of the recent origin of the Young Workers League, quotes Trotsky's speech to the youth of Europe and America, in which Trotsky feels convinced that the working youth of the world will join the revolutionary forces for the overthrow of world capitalism.

To Mr. Darst's naive mind "Trotsky's call on the revolutionary youth of America 'to fulfil its duty' has been answered by the formation of the 'Young Workers League.'" Rather, the organization of the League is due to the increasing misery and exploitation of the American working youth, pointed out herein. It is these objective, immediate, hellish conditions that are now the lot of all toilers in America and elsewhere which compel the organization of the workers to resist the blows of the capitalists. Capitalism forces the workers to attempt to protect themselves. It makes workers inquire into the causes of their increasing misery and thus many of them discover the causes of exploitation.

The Young Workers League has come to see that man cannot be free so long as there is economic slavery — not even in America, where the workers have "political freedom, liberty and the right to the pursuit (pursuit is right) of happiness." And capitalism, with the extremest economic exploitation, horrible wars, etc., has shown itself to be the worst of slaveries. Hence, another bugaboo of the capitalist class, the Young Workers League, has come into being and states that its purpose is:

"To organize and educate the young of the working class for the abolition of capitalism and to aid in the establishment of a Republic of Workers' Councils, a government functioning through the power of the proletariat to the exclusion of all other classes, as the first step toward the establishment of an international classless society, free from all political and economic slavery."

#### What the League Teaches.

The Young Workers League teaches its members economic and political science. Lenin, Marx, Engels, Bukharin and a host of other revolutionary thinkers are the sources of education for its members. How lamentable! cries Mr. Darst. Where is Washington, land gobbler, Hancock, prince of smugglers, Hamilton, the liberty-loving soul who wished a monarchy for America? You are right, Mr. Darst, we don't believe in your Washingtons and Monroes and Hamiltons. They established political liberty and economic supremacy — for the capitalist class. And to follow their teachings is to work for the perpetuation of wage slavery. Marx, Engels, Lenin, and many others have shown to the workers the way out of the dilemma of capitalist slavery. They have shown the workers the cause of their misery — unpaid labor, surplus value; they have pointed out to us the laws of social development, which doom capitalism and aid the workers in their battle for a society divorced from all forms of exploitation.

Our education is for the benefit of a working class; all other "education" is for the capitalist class. And all history, past and in the making, go to prove the Marxian teachings correct. That Mr. Darst has failed to speak of. Perhaps he would like to have the world engage in another little "democratic" war (democratic

in that all workers are free to kill one another and the capitalists free to compete for the spoils.)

"Economics and psychology," says Mr. Darst, "receive special attention." Yes, and history and political science and anything else which will help the working class free itself from capitalist banditry. Are these the "bombs" — history, politics, economics, etc — Mr. Darst and Mr. Burns and Mr. Gary and Mr. Morgan and company fear so greatly? Have all the "plots" of these estimable gentlemen, the capitalists and their lackeys, been reduced to a "conspiracy" to educate the workers of America against capitalism? . . . Well, they fear rightly who fear an enlightened and awakened working class. The day the workers realize the hopelessness and futility of life under capitalism — on that day, the capitalist class can say, "Our Deluge has come!"

#### Our International Relationship.

In line with the charge that the Young Workers League of America was formed in answer to the call of Trotsky, a stupid assumption as we show, Darst declares that . . . "The Young Workers League . . . is the above-board manifestation of the youthful communist organization in America." We consider the Young Communist International the only true guide of the young workers of the world, and although not affiliated with it at this time, we have the greatest sympathy for it, and feel that under its direction the revolutionary young workers — all young workers — will best advance their cause. We hope some day that conditions may arrive when the Young Workers League can become a section of Young Communist International.

What is the basis for the international relationship of workers organizations? It is the very development of capitalism itself; it is that development which has compelled the capitalist class of the various nations to try to organize on an international basis against the workers. But the competition of the capitalist for profits and for markets prohibits their coming together successfully internationally. On the other hand, the workers of the world being exploited in common in every country into which the capitalist system has penetrated, find it to their advantage and necessity to organize to combat the international exploitation by their masters. The Communist International and the Young Communist International have proved to be workers' internationals, not only in words, but in action. For this reason, the Young Workers League of America emphatically accepts and recognizes these bodies as the only true workers' internationals.

#### American Legion "Principles."

The American Legion, among other things, "advocates the training of all boys and girls in broad and tolerant (!) Americanism." We wonder if the Legion writes this in seriousness or in mockery.

As examples of the "broad and tolerant Americanism" so ardently advocated by the Legion, let Arthur Warner repeat his unrefuted testimony: (*The Nation*, "The Truth About the American Legion," Nos. July 6th to July 27th, 1921, inclusive.)

The Legion . . . "gives orders to public officers and is fearfully consulted by them; it is accorded quasi-official standing through the privilege of occupying government buildings, as in New York City, where it enjoys commodious offices in the Hall of Records . . .



it has established a censorship of public meetings and by actual or threatened violence suppresses freedom of speech; it is attempting to dictate the instruction in our public schools and pass upon the qualification of the teachers; although nominally non-political, it has actually sponsored a host of bigotted and repressive laws and policies . . ."

Now we will list a few of the cases which Mr. Warner heads "The long, long trail of lawlessness."

1. Arthur Clark, editor of the *Carpenteria* (California) Herald, whipped most brutally, a former Legion man. Criticizing Legion.

2. Cincinnati raid on Communist Labor Party headquarters.

3. In connection with above, attempted murder of Frederick Reis, Jr., former Legion man. Testified against the legion at trial of above case. Story damaging to Legion.

4. Stopping of innumerable meetings.

5. Prevention of the organization of workers into unions. As a result, many unions have taken action forbidding their members from joining that organization.

6. Innumerable instances of strike-breaking charged to Legion. Central Federated Union of New York, representing the entire membership of American Federation of Labor in that district. Detroit Local No. 127, Automobile, Aircraft, and Vehicle Workers of America.

To the Young Workers League and other working class organizations, it is quite obvious why the American Legion is a labor hating and labor breaking organization. The Legion has been subsidized by big business. A drive for \$100,000 which was made in Illinois, was largely subscribed to by the financial and stock yard interests. A letter printed in "Stars and Stripes," a soldier's paper, signed by Gale Johnson, editor of the "Intelligencer," inquires:

"Who are the 400 'friends of the Legion' who indorsed the notes for \$257,000, with which the Legion was organized? Was Coleman Du Pont of the Powder Trust, one of them? Were the packers of Chicago? Was David Goodrich, of the Rubber Trust? Was the Standard Oil Company?"

Warner, commenting on these questions, says that they have never been answered.

#### **The Legion and the Bonus.**

Thousands have joined the Legion for the simple reason that they thought this was a good way to get the bonus and not because they subscribed to the "principles" of that organization. The Legion, at best, is for a pittance in the form of a bonus for the working-class soldiers who suffered as a result of the war. Even this has been denied by the tools of the masters who head the government.

The Young Workers League is for a bonus — a bonus so large, taken from the military budget, that it will give to the workers who fought for "democracy" somewhere near the massive profits reaped by the capitalists through the exploitation of the entire working class. We are for a bonus so large that it will strip the military budget so that not another soldier could be outfitted to scab or shoot down workers. We are for caring for the wounded soldiers in a fashion that is impossible under the capitalist system — namely, the best of medical care in resorts now monopolized by the master class and their sycophants, who, during

the war were flooded with the wealth that came out of the blood-shed.

However, we know, as has been repeatedly proved, that any substantial benefit for the workers is impossible under capitalist society.

Thousands of members have, since the organization of the Legion, left its ranks because they have realized that the American Legion is but a scab institution of the capitalist class. Hence the Legion is dwindling and shriveling. Yet, the capitalist class will not stand by and see the American Legion destroyed of itself, but will try to revive this or similar White-guard, terroristic organizations to be used against the working-class.

#### **The World War Veterans.**

We know that there are other soldier organizations in existence that oppose the obvious capitalistic and anti-labor activities of the American Legion — organizations that stand in fact for free speech, free press, and free assemblage. Such an organization is the World War Veterans of America, composed of working class members. The World War Veterans do stand for the organized labor movement — for the working-class, which is the only true Americanism; and we feel certain that the World War Veterans, composed as it is of workers, will soon come to see that it is necessary for it to take a definite stand against the entire capitalist system. We urge all ex-soldiers and those interested in a real workers-soldiers organization to join the World War Veterans.

The last war was but the logical outcome of the natural development of the capitalist system. Of course, Mr. Darst and his fellow Legionnaires do not understand this. Wars are inevitable so long as capitalism exists. We need but to point to the Turkish imbroglio to emphasize this.

The Young Workers League is a foe of capitalism. The American Legion is a supporter and a fighter for capitalism. Hence the Legion is uneasy at the rapid and sure growth of the radical movement — the workers' movement.

#### **The Movement of the New Day.**

We will continue to carry on our education, agitation and organization for the overthrow of capitalism and for the establishment of a workers' government, — a Soviet Republic. Our immediate task is to enlist the youth in this struggle. It will be the youth upon whose shoulders will fall the greatest burden of establishing a society free from exploitation, classes and American Legions.

Darst and the Legion are the supporters of a dying, tottering system. The Young Workers League stands for the new day. In the prophetic words of Jack London we say:

"The old world is dead, dead and buried along with its heroes and Helens and knights and ladies and tournaments and pageants. You cannot sing of the truth and wonder of today in terms of yesterday. And no one will listen to your singing till you sing of today in terms of today.

"This is the day of the common man. Do you glorify the common man? This is the day of the Machine. When have you sung of the Machine? The Crusades are here again, not the crusades of Christ, but the Crusades of the Machine — have you found motive in

(Continued on page 13).



# The Working Children of Boston and Vicinity

By HARRY GANNES

**H**ELEN SUMNER WOODBURY, Ph. D., has written a book, very recently issued by the United States Department of Labor on "The Working Children of Boston." A study was made by her and a number of assistants, with the aid of the state officials of Massachusetts who have charge of the issuing of working certificates to children, on this subject.

The main purpose of the study was to find out whether the child worker is able to grow into adult life with his health and physical vigor unimpaired. The main question remains unanswered. However, a large number of facts in this book show beyond question that the young child who enters the modern system of production before having reached maturity must suffer in some way for the rest of its life.

"Boston was chosen for the study," says Mrs. Woodbury, "because, in addition to having industrial conditions fairly typical of those in other large American cities, it had legal regulations of child labor as stringent as any which are common in this country, a good system of records of its working children, and, in its continuation school, the beginnings, at least, of an attempt to apply the most modern methods to the problems of the child in industry." The cities of Cambridge, Somerville, and Chelsea were covered, also, because they are an industrial unit with Boston.

A large number of the children, before going to work definitely, had been employed during vacation or out of school hours; and 60.8 per cent of the children who worked before leaving school had violated the child labor law in some way. It must be remembered that Boston has one of the "best" laws of its kind in the country; but this law — as every other child labor law — overlooks the fact that children go to work to make up the deficiencies in their parents' wages, and no matter what the capitalist legislatures may write, if the father and mother, even though both are employed, do not receive enough to give their children the food and clothing needed, the only alternative is to put them to work.

During the war, Massachusetts was not so stringent with its child labor law. The reason given is that foreign born children could not get their birth certificates. But the fact is that manufacturers were short of workers and child laborers were needed.

In Boston there are 37,000 child workers between the ages of 10 and 15, according to the 1920 census. Since 1914, the number of children legally employed has been increasing with leaps and bounds. The following table gives the number of working certificates issued in Boston from 1915 to 1918:

Year	Number of certificates
1915.....	6,412
1916.....	12,043
1917.....	16,683
1918.....	20,683

In four years the number of certificates issued permitting children to be exploited had more than trippled. Over 80 per cent of the children going to work were American born. Also, "the tendency for children to go to work within the first six months after they became 14 was more marked among the native than among the foreign born . . ."

Scientists, whether in sociology or in biology, always look for the causes of things. Mrs. Woodbury made a pretense at looking for the reason why these children in Boston and vicinity went to work. However, in the mass of figures she juggles about, this truth stands out: The majority of children were forced to enter employment because of economic pressure of some kind, either unemployment of the parents, low wages, or death of the main support of the family. One of the facts emphasizing this conclusion is that 73.8 per cent of the children were forced out of school during the school term; that is, they could not wait until they had finished the grade they were in at the time they applied for a working permit. Says Woodbury: "Children, whose fathers were unemployed, were more likely to go to work during the school year than those whose fathers were employed."

And these young workers were put at the most menial work at ridiculously low wages. The average wage for children leaving school for work before reaching the age of sixteen, according to Mrs. Woodbury, is \$16.68 a month, and the children are "obliged to work excessively, and generally illegally, long hours or at night."

## Disastrous Effect on Children's Health.

The health of the children is greatly endangered because of their early entry into slavery. Thirty-six per cent of the children recorded working in Boston reported at least one sickness. Nearly one child out of every 12 suffered some accident, either in the course of his work or otherwise, since taking his first regular position. Most of the accidents while at work were caused by machinery. Girls more often than boys were employed at machinery, and consequently they suffered most from accidents of this sort.

It is not at all surprising, with the continually decreasing wages received by the workers, that the number of children going to work should become greater and greater. It is logical. The workers generally look upon their children as possible wage earners; they look to their children for support in old age. Hence when economic pressure is extremely severe, it is but natural that the average worker should, under capitalism, send his child into the factory, mill or office regardless of the effects on the health of the child. The charge that this is the practice of "ignorant foreigners" does not at all hold. No matter who the worker, when bread runs short in the house or enough money for rent is not at hand, the child is sent into the labor market for it is much easier for children to get work than adults. The child works for less.

The only hope the "future citizens" have is as future citizens of a workers' republic where their labor power would not be considered as a commodity, and where their health and well-being would be considered first. There is nothing to be gained by the workers and their children from the philanthropic acts of the capitalist legislatures. Action for and on their own behalf is the only way out.





## Youth in America's Industries

**H**AVEN'T you ever wondered about the conditions of the hundreds of thousands of boys and girls, of young men and women that are employed in the great industries of this country. Or perhaps, you are not aware of the extent to which they are being used and exploited?

Think for a moment of the mass of them that you come into contact with every day in the year. There are the newsboys, the messenger boys, the bell hops and the office boys. And then there are the stenographers, bookkeepers, and clerical help that is so essential to every office or concern. And the clerks in the stores, be they large or small — almost without exception they are young. In the large cities where the manufacture of clothing is a large factor — such as in New York, Chicago, Rochester — there are to be found thousands upon thousands of young workers — practically all of them girls. And then there is the textile industry — so highly developed in the New England states, where child labor is common-place. The large mail order houses and mercantile establishments employ young workers almost exclusively. The packing houses, too, cannot be forgotten.

Possibly no other industry has reached the high point of efficiency obtained by that which produces automobiles. The great Ford, Packard, Buick and Dodge plants want only YOUNG men and women. No one can stand up under the killing pace at which they work for any length of time — and only the young are given any consideration.

Iron and steel form the basis of modern capitalism, so these, too, are swallowing up the young in ever greater numbers. Gary, Pittsburg, Bethlehem — all testify to the increased use of the young in the process of production. But not only in this dangerous work are they to be found. In the mines — the coal, the iron, the copper mines — here, too, labors the youth of America.

All of this is of great interest to us. Each industry offers a story — an intensely interesting but pathetic story. A story of lost childhood, of stunted minds of dwarfed and weakened bodies. A story of greed and avarice by the employers. A story of twentieth century capitalism, efficient, and ruthless, which grinds out mountains of gold from the sweat and blood of the children of the workers. A story which shows how the older workers are being forced out of their positions, while their young ones must take their places at lower wages and under worse conditions of employment.

The *Young Worker* considers that this question is one worthy of treatment. Consequently, beginning in the December issue, and continuing for 10 consecutive issues, a series of articles will appear in our magazine under the title of "Youth in America's Industries." A number of comrades have been assigned to the work of gathering the necessary material and preparing it for publication.

We request every comrade who is employed in any of these industries or can gain first-hand information regarding same, to forward it to the Editor of the *Young Worker*, 2517 Fullerton Ave. All assistance given us will be highly appreciated.

## After the Meeting

**S**AY Joe, d'ya ever listen to that guy spillin' the words all over about the way those Reds get around from one place to another?

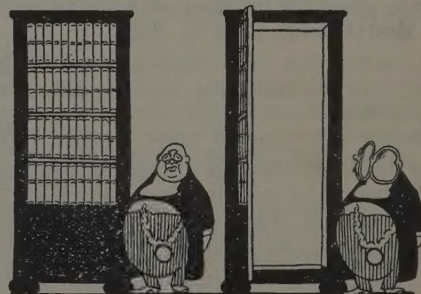
Why, on the other night he was telling about the Young Communist League of Greece, and how a couple of years ago they and some others down in that end of the world — whad'ya call them countries again? — oh yes, the Balkans. Well, he says that there were Y. C. L.'s in all of the countries there, but it was hard as hell for them to get together — to map out a common line of action, so to speak. Well, he says that they held a joint meetin' all right. I don't remember the ways the delegates managed to get over the border — but, believe me, it sounded like regular Nick Carter stuff. Any way, about twenty of 'em finally got into Greece, but then the big job was to arrange for a safe meetin' place. He says that the English soldiers were still there — and they were just as anxious to catch these Reds as anybody else. Most of the prominent Y. C. L. members of Greece were well known to the police, so they were always being spied upon.

Can you imagine how they met — and where? Why, some of their boys had gotten jobs as night watchmen in the big storage warehouse where the British war supplies were kept. They were the only ones inside — and the sentries patrolled outside. Somehow or other they slipped all of the delegates into the warehouses and found hiding places for them. There they stayed for several days and nights. Every night they would hold their sessions, map out plans of going ahead with their work, etc. Meanwhile, a search was made all over the city to locate these young revolutionists. But they couldn't be found, so the authorities thought they had gone to some other city.

When the meetings were over, they all managed to get out again. Everyone got back to his own country, and when the report was issued about the Balkan conference of the Young Communist Leagues the authorities were sore as hell.

Honest, Joe, what do you think of it? Sounds fishy, doesn't it. I'll bet they run everything open and above-board just like we do here in the Y. W. L. and that Marvin is trying to kid us. Well, what's the use o' worryin' — I don't suppose such things ever will happen around here. What you laughing at? Gosh, I like excitement. Guess I'll try to become a soap-boxer, then I might have a little fun with the cops once in a while, anyhow.

What's that? Our lesson for next week? It's on "Imperialism," and pretty interesting, too.—C. O.



A Capitalist Library.



# The Basis for Prostitution in Capitalism

By EDGAR HART

(Continued from last issue).

## Wages and Prostitution.

In 1913, in five of the largest department stores in the city of Chicago, there were 13,610 women and girls employed—the greatest number being girls between the ages of 14 and 20. The largest store employed 4,732 and the next in order 4,222. The average pay in the first store was \$9.20, and in the second \$10.67, according to the testimony of either the managers or owners of the stores.

The wages of 1,013 employes of one concern that made a net profit of \$2,370,000 for the year, was from \$3.00 to \$7.00 a week.

It was found that 7,000 girls received far below what the committee considered a wage necessary to maintain the minimum fair standard of living.

What wages have to do with prostitution is vividly brought out by figures compiled by William W. Sanger, resident physician on Blackwell Island, New York, a penal institution, who made a study of 2,000 prostitutes coming under his care. These figures are stated in Dr. Sanger's book, *History of Prostitution*, written 50 years before the Illinois Vice Committee began its work.

He found that wages bore a pertinent relationship to prostitution.

Here are his figures:

Average Wages Weekly.	Number Receiving Wage.
\$1.00 .....	534
2.00 .....	336
3.00 .....	230
4.00 .....	127
5.00 .....	68
6.00 .....	27
7.00 .....	8
8.00 .....	5
10.00 .....	1
50.00 .....	1
Unascertained .....	663
Total .....	2,000

The capitalist system since that time has grown considerably. Exploitation of the workers has been increased, and the chances for the worker, man or woman, to get out of the working-class has become practically impossible. The great mass of wealth has concentrated into the hands of a few wealthy families of this nation, and the bulk of the population, is forced to work for wages. This makes for an aggravation of the results indicated by the foregoing figures—that is to say, as capitalism develops, the relationship between wages and prostitution, (as well as all other crimes) becomes more direct and pertinent. Even though the figures over sixty years ago pointed irrefutably to the fact that low wages were the main contributing cause in the making of prostitutes, today despite the so-called popularization of education and the vast increase in the "moral" machinery of the nation, low wages becomes ever more a greater factor in the creation of criminals and prostitutes.

Prostitution is, under the various state laws, illicit—contrary to law. So is child labor. Both exist however. Parmelee, authority on criminology, does not regard prostitution a crime. Naturally, no figures

exist as to the exact number of prostitutes in the United States, though this is part of the statistical tables of some of the European countries and, therefore, any figures as to the extent of this evil in this country are either guesses or fair estimates.

In 1913 it was estimated from "reliable sources," that there were 300,000 prostitutes in the U. S.\*

The number in the past five years in this country has greatly increased to well over the 500,000 mark. The people who were interviewed, such as mayors, chief of police, and ministers are not in the habit of magnifying the extent of crime and prostitution in their cities. It is the business of mayors and chief of police to suppress prostitution. Is it logical to believe that they will give a correct estimate, in all instances, of the number of prostitutes in their city? Are not their personal interests in the making of a "good showing" to the citizens of their towns to be taken into consideration in this figure.

In Germany, where wages have reached the lowest level known in history (this likewise applies to some of the Central European countries) the streets are literally flooded with prostitutes. The only country in the world where prostitution is on the decrease is in Russia, where a workers' government recognizes that the true basis of prostitution is the capitalist wage system.

Further evidence on the relation of wages to prostitution is given by Henry T. Rogers, Jr., in his remarkable article on *The Relation of Low Wages to Vice*.

Rogers is a graduate of Yale University, a perfect capitalistic institution. At the time the Illinois Committee was making its investigation he delved into the subject in a scientific manner and arrived at the inevitable conclusion that low wages have a strong bearing in making prostitutes.

Rogers, in his article, makes it plain that he did not proceed along the line of guess work. His is a purely scientific article. It has no element of propaganda in it. These are the facts succinctly put. They are supported by a vast array of authorities quoted in the article:

1. That there are a great many women wage-earners in the industrial world who are either self-supporting or who have others dependent on them. In short, that a large number must depend entirely on the wages they receive for their labor.

2. That the wages paid to a vast majority of these self-supporting workers is very appreciably below the wage necessary for the maintenance of a minimum standard of living.

3. That low wages produce a great variety of causes which undermine the health, morals and power of resistance to temptation of the wage-worker.

4. That great pressure is continually being brought upon women wage-earners by agents of the prostitu-

\*B. S. Steadwell, Pres. American Purity Federation. Quoted in report of Syracuse Moral Survey Committee, 1913, p. 66 This estimate was on correspondence and interviews with mayors, chief of police, reformers, and ministers in cities of 25,000 and over.



tion business and by others either to enter a life of professional prostitution or to supplement their meager earnings by clandestine prostitution.

5. That this pressure is almost invariably brought to bear on those girls who (because of the above-mentioned factors) are least able to resist it.

6. That the irresistible conclusion from these five factors is that many girls are bound to succumb and become prostitutes.

Of course, every girl who receives five dollars a week, or so low a wage that she can not maintain herself decently, does not become a prostitute. On the other hand there are very few girls in good circumstances who do become prostitutes. But as Dr. J. H. Greer says: "Nearly every woman of the street who has ever been questioned will tell, if she tells the truth, a painful story of want, of suffering on the part of some dear one . . ."

A typical instance of just how the prostitute in many instances reaches her stage in life is given by George Tollman in his sworn testimony before the vice committee:

I can tell you of a case that happened when I was fourteen years old. I was working on a lunch wagon in Kansas City. There used to be a girl that worked in a laundry, and they paid her \$5.00 a week; she used to come up there to buy lunches. She could buy a lunch there cheap. The work was very hard for her, it seemed; we got intimately acquainted with each other. So she told me that she was not feeling well, and she began to get sick. So finally she didn't show up to get her lunch. The next day I went to see what was the matter with her. I went at 6 o'clock at night and 2 o'clock in the morning. The next day I went to her room to see her and found her sick in bed. So I went then and called up a charitable organization or two and told them about it. They promised to send somebody, but for some reason they didn't send anyone. I was only getting \$5.00 a week myself. I got a doctor, paid the room rent and bought every day what was necessary, but she got worse. The result was I gave up my room, and I had to stay there most of the time. I slept in a chair while she was sick. Afterwards, after she got up, she was not able to work, why, then I didn't think that I should stay in her room any longer. I didn't want to pay room rent any more, so I went down to sleep in box cars on the river.

Then I don't know, I guess I must have got a cold and fever, but somehow I got sick and went to a hospital, and I guess I was there about a month. I tried to tell them about the girl, but they seemed to think I didn't know what I was talking about; after that, after I got out of the hospital I got to work there and started to hunt for the girl, and I couldn't find her. One day, finally, I met her on the street. As soon as I met her, of course, I knew she was down below; I could see that on her face.

As soon as she saw me she began to cry. I asked her where she lived. She said she had just got away from the place where she was at a short time, and told me where she was rooming. The next day I saw her and she told me how she came to be down there.

She said after she had got out of doors, I mean after she got so that she could get around a little; why, she went out to look for work again, and there was not any supply of food or anything for her, and she didn't have any money, and she simply got hungrier and hungrier all the time walking the streets. She said one day she was so hungry she supposed she was staggering along the streets, and an officer told her she was drunk, she was to go on, or he would run her in. She went on a piece further when some man came up to her and says, "You are drunk; better let me take you to a room; you will get pinched here." She told him she wasn't drunk; she was hungry. He says, "If that is the way, come on and I'll see that you get something to eat." She didn't know where he was taking her to; she didn't care very much where he was taking her. They went to a house. Of course, as soon as she got into the house she seen where she was. She was taken to a room, her clothes were taken away from her, and they gave her a glass of milk. After that they told her that she would either have to submit to the house or else she would not get anything more to eat.

(To be continued in next issue).

## Ye Gods! What's This?

A friend who has a boy of fourteen years lately asked me what I'd make of the youngster if he were mine. My reply was simple: I'd take him out into the backyard and humanely shoot him. The United States is surely no place for bringing up an intelligent and sensitive boy. He'll be heartily ashamed of his country before he is twenty-one, and the chances are that he'll be ashamed of his father, too. My friend, however, vetoed assassination on legal and theological grounds. I then advised him to make a thief of his son,—i. e., a good business man. I see no future in the arts and professions among us. The artist, if he is competent and honest, almost starves, and, honest or dishonest, he is an object of public aversion, and in a few more years he will probably be a criminal. As for the profession, what do they offer? The lawyer and the clergyman are simply valets to the business man; the pedagogue blacks his shoes in the universities; the soldier collects his bad bills; even the physician is dependent on him for education and support. In America, indeed, practically all the sciences are dependent upon the generosity of wealthy cads. Even to be a professor of Sanskrit one must first find a cold-cream manufacturer willing to found a chair. The government takes no interest in such matters, and the public, when it thinks of them at all, thinks of them as immoral.—George Jean Nathan and H. L. Mencken, in the "Smart Set."

## Seattle Booms

By CAROL BRISTOL & CLARA REISEROFF.

Seattle Yowls are full of pep,

Boom, boom and a little bit more,

They give the movement all its rep,

Boom, boom and a little bit more.

And now our League's begun to grow

We will not stop until we show

Just what we mean when we say, "Let's go!"

Boom, boom and a little bit more!

Our study class lasts just one hour,

Boom, boom and a little bit more!

To keep awake we loose our power,

Honk, honk, that's a very loud snore.

So late at night our brains are few

Our teacher has a lot to do

He teaches all Marx ever knew —

Boom, boom and a little bit more!

Our chairman's voice is very loud,

Boom, boom and a little bit more.

With iron hand he rules the crowd,

Boom, boom and a little bit more!

But when we think his rulings rot,

We rise and tell him on the spot —

Our chairman gets it good and hot —

Boom, boom and a little bit more!

But when the meeting's at an end,

Boom, boom and a little bit more,

He's still a comrade and a friend,

Boom, boom and a little bit more!

And when the evening's work is done

We all get ready for some fun

So we go downtown for tea and a bun,

Boom, boom—and not a single bit more!



## News of the Leagues

Barney Mass, who was instrumental in organizing an active branch of the Y. W. L. in Kansas City, Mo., is now lining up some of the Jewish young workers in that city with a view of forming them into a branch of the Young Workers League. The comrades in Kansas City are busy with the Observer Fund lists, for they know the importance of this work.

In Rochester, N. Y., the Workers' Party is unusually interested in organizing a branch of the younger workers, and it has delegated John Komorowski to do this work. Already preparatory educational work is being carried on in Rochester and we expect any day to hear of a live branch there.

### Organize Branch in St. Paul.

A branch has been organized in St. Paul, Minn., with A. Gatesman as secretary, and M. Beronick as organizer.

The comrades in Newark, N. J., are gradually increasing their membership. Especial attention is given the sale of our literature by these members.

Bethlehem, Pa., writes that they have "elected a committee of three for defence," also that they got ten new members making a total of thirty. The Y. W. L. in Bethlehem is always prompt in complying with the instructions of the N. E. C.

The New York Y. W. L., City Central Committee, writes in to let us know that they are going to set the pace hereafter for all the other Leagues. Plans are being made in New York to have one of the comrades there devote at least half a day exclusively to League work. A small wage is to be paid this comrade for the time he devotes to such work. A special drive is being inaugurated in that city among unions and labor organizations generally to get funds for the "Young Worker." Comrade Zam is in charge. New York, also, promises to come in strong on the Observer Fund. Other plans of moment have been advanced by the comrades of the Big City.

Industrial enlightenment is a pastime of the Young Workers League of Chicago. Every month a general membership meeting is held at which some lecturer, versed in trade union tactics, discusses the general labor movement. Wm. Z. Foster and Earl Browder of the Trade Union Educational League have already given talks before the Chicago League. Others are scheduled to talk. Chicago reports increase both in membership and activities as cooler weather sets in. An entertainment for Halloween is being arranged by the Chicago Y. W. L. to pay up its debts.

### Chelsea Becomes Part of Boston.

The Y. W. L. in Chelsea, Mass., has definitely become a part of the City Central Committee of Boston and in the future will act in unison with the Boston League.

In Philadelphia, Pa., the Y. W. L. is actively engaged in defence work. One of the comrades arrested in Michigan is a member of the Philadelphia Young Workers League. Besides taking part in the F. S. R., T. U. E. L., and W. P. activities, the Philadelphia League finds time for serious study, and regular classes and lectures are held for the education of the members in revolutionary theory and tactics.

The Minneapolis "Labor Review," in its issue of

September 14, contained a write-up of the I. Y. D., arranged by our comrades in that city. Among other things the report says:

"The Young Workers League is to be congratulated on the success which attended the first celebration of International Youth Day. The masterly way in which everything was arranged and carried out shows that the Young Workers have learned to do things for themselves and to do them well.

"Adults of the workingclass will make no mistake to have their children become interested in the work of the Young Workers League. Those who are members of this organization receive a working class education and get a working class viewpoint that means they will never be found scabbing in time of strike as has lately been the case of many Minneapolis youths of the working class miseducated through capitalist schools and organizations to struggle against their own best interests."

"I succeeded in organizing an American branch of the Young Workers League," reports James Paboucek of Neffs, Ohio. Fourteen comrades made their application for membership. All the necessary organizational supplies were sent to Neffs and the League there is under way. We await further developments.

From San Francisco, Calif., comes word that the Y. W. L. there is "endeavoring to form a class of children under 14 years of age. International Youth Day was held on September 30, instead of the 8, in San Francisco, with the Oakland branch co-operating. Workers' Party speakers were present. A good musical program was given."

Aberdeen, Washington, since its organization has reported steady growth. Latest word from there is: "Our membership has increased to 22 from the 14 last reported."

### Detroit Revives with a Bang.

Immediately after the first national convention of the Young Workers League, the Detroit young comrades were requisitioned for work in the adult movement. As a result, the work in the League was neglected. A great change has come about, however, and the Y. W. L. in Detroit is now alive again and going full blast. Three branches are now in existence; and they are growing rapidly. A city central committee is being formed in that city to co-ordinate the city work. The order for the "Young Worker" has been increased.

Reports indicate that the celebration of International Youth Day by San Francisco, although held belatedly, was highly successful. A crowd of over 200 was in attendance, all enthusiastic. The speakers were J. G. Reed and James H. Fisher, both of whom gave impressive talks.

Besides the speeches, a musical program and a play, "Hansel and Gretel," were staged, both of which were very favorably received by the audience. The net proceeds of the affair will probably be about forty dollars.

Funds come in steadily for our "International Observer," but not in sufficient amount, as yet, to finance the trip. Our man goes nevertheless. Rush in your blanks. The smaller branches are making a better showing than our larger Leagues.

On to Moscow!



# International News

**I**NTERNATIONAL Youth Day did not pass by as quietly in all countries as it did here. In Germany, for example, during the demonstration in Berlin, the police attempted to break up the meeting, and tho they did not succeed in that, they did achieve some success, for one of the young workers was killed and four of them severely wounded. Many thousands of the Berlin youth took part in the great demonstration. According to the "Internationale Jugendkorrespondenz" English and America youth representatives spoke at the meeting as well as native speakers.

In Crefeld, Germany, the governmental authorities refused to allow a demonstration.

Paris witnessed a series of conflicts-between the revolutionary youth and protectors of "law and order." In spite of every attempt made by the police to prevent the meetings by charging into the crowds and by arresting dozens of persons, the crowd kept swelling in numbers, and grew more and more determined to go ahead with the meetings—which they did.

No meeting was allowed to be held in Basel, Switzerland, but in spite of this injunction a crowd of more than one thousand proceeded to celebrate International Youth Day.

In Checko-Slovakia the governmental authorities refused to allow the distribution of hand-bills or posters and also would not permit any kind of a collection to be taken. Furthermore, all speakers who attempted to discuss the question of militarism were prevented from continuing their speeches. In spite of all this, the gatherings were large and there was a very fine spirit manifested by all attending.

(Continued from page 8)

them for your song? We are crusading today, not for the remission of sins, but for the abolition of sinning, of economic and industrial sinning. The Crusade to Christ's sepulchre was paltry compared with the splendor and might of our crusade today towards manhood. There are millions of us afoot. In the stillness of the night have you never listened to the trampling of our feet and been caught up by the glory and romance of it? ... Our captains sit in council, our heroes take the field, our fighting men are buckling their harness, our martyrs have already died, and you are blind to it all!"

How different from all this was the situation in Russia, where the Soviet government declared International Youth Day as a national holiday. There, too, were great celebrations, demonstrations and mass meetings where young and old alike joined hands. But instead of having to fight for the right of demonstrating, the government—their government—helped them in every possible way.

## United Front Congress of Youth Delayed.

Because of the delay and deliberate sabotage by the youth organizations affiliated with the Second and Second-and-a-Half Internationals respectively, the World Congress of the Proletarian Youth has been indefinitely postponed and may not take place at all.

The call for a United Front of the young workers of all countries was published in a previous issue of the *Young Worker*. An attempt was to be made to line up ALL working class organizations of the youth for a World Congress, where the immediate problems of the young proletarians of all countries would be discussed, and a uniform plan of action outlined.

The Young Communist International has done its best to bring about such a congress. Many organizations, such as the Young Workers League, which are not definitely affiliated with any International, have accepted the call for the World Congress.

A call has now been issued directly to the membership of the organizations that refused to participate in such a congress, calling upon them to go over the heads of their leaders in this matter and to demand participation in such a congress, at which ALL working class youth organizations shall be represented.

## Hail, Young Workers!

By RENA DEANE.

Nearer and nearer comes a bright flow of banners;  
We hear the first note of a song to be sung.  
Song that the old years smote into silence  
The new day will ring within the voice of the young.

Too long the snarling of the greedy gray-beards,  
Preying and slaying, has sounded over earth.  
Soon it will end, now young men and maids are marching  
Singing together: "A Better World's in Birth."

People of earth, take up the song, join the banners,  
Break from the old men whose law is claw and tooth.  
Break their power built on youth's labor and its life-blood.  
Hail the new leaders! All power to youth!

### STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912.

Of the *Young Worker*, published monthly at Chicago, Ill., for October 1, 1922, State of Illinois, County of Cook (ss.)

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Harry Gannes, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the *Young Worker* and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, The Young Workers League of America, 2517 Fullerton Ave., Chicago. Editor, O. Carlson, 2517 Fullerton Ave., Chicago. Managing Editor, none. Business Manager, Harry Gannes.

2. That the owners are: (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or, if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent. or more of the total amount of stock).

The Young Workers League of America, a voluntary organization, by the National Executive Committee, 2517 Fullerton Ave., H. Aborn, secretary, 2517 Fullerton Ave., John Edwards, chairman, 2517 Fullerton Ave.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or

other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

Harry Gannes, Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th day of October 1922.

(Seal) Harry A. Rezek.

(My commission expires August 26, 1924.)



(Continued from page 2).

## Necessity-Mother of Invention

THE heading of this editorial is as old as the hills, and may be considered as axiomatic; yet very few of us ever consider what it really means. When the ancient Greeks failed to capture Troy by siege or force of numbers, they conceived the idea of building a huge wooden horse, in which were hidden a large number of their soldiers. Well, you know the rest of the story, how the Trojans brought it inside of their walled city, and then at midnight the Greeks came out of their hiding place, opened the gates—and Troy succumbed.

Recall how the capture of the trade routes across Asia Minor by the barbaric Moslems led to Columbus' journey over the Atlantic in search of a new route to India, and a new hemisphere was found instead.

Only yesterday, it seems, the Germans were prohibited from having any airplanes according to the infamous Peace Treaty of Versailles. What happened? To-day the engineless airplanes are being developed at an unthought of rate in Germany.

Man is naturally inventive, and usually finds a way out of the most difficult situations.

The Russians, in 1917, after countless centuries of oppression, worked their way out from Russian Capitalism and Czarism in very short order. In spite of almost insurmountable obstacles they have held their own against the rest of the world for nearly five years. Since Europe and America refused to give economic and financial assistance to Russia, the workers and peasants there are making the grade without foreign help. They are succeeding. They won the first fight. They are winning the second.

Although oftentimes conditions look hopeless for us in trying to rouse the labor movement here, let us bear in mind that the masses in America are slowly but surely finding their way out of the morass of Capitalist exploitation. They, too, will learn—and it may take a much shorter time than most of us imagine.

## War Clouds Again

“YOUNG MEN WANTED—to fight for the shipping interests of Great Britain or Greece or for the financial interests of France.” Have you seen such a sign? Not yet? It seems as though your chances for adventure (?) shall be fulfilled, for another great war looms close upon the horizon. The conflict between the Greek and the Turkish Nationalist armies has been going on for a long time. No one seemed to care except the people of the two countries concerned. Now, however, the Turks seem to have completely whipped the Greeks, and threaten to cross into Europe. In fact, they are demanding that Thrace be returned to them. For the moment, Turkey has the upper hand, and has forced England to back down from its former position.

What will come of this affair we cannot say for sure. But one thing is certain—the workers of all countries involved must refuse to fight their masters' wars any longer. Let the young take the lead in this struggle against new wars. We have had enough of the slaughter. There is only one war that we should fight in and that is the Class War. That is the struggle that will lead to the victory of the workers over their oppressors. Its success is the only sure cure against future wars.

**ORGANIZE YOUR DEFENSE COMMITTEES**

## The World Congress

THE Third Congress of the Young Communist International will convene in Moscow beginning November 20. Problems of great importance will be discussed and settled there. The Young Workers League is sending an observer to the congress in order that it may better acquaint its membership with what is being done by this world-wide organization. A full and complete report on the congress will appear in the “Young Worker” at the earliest possible moment. We urge our comrades to follow the labor press during the months of November and December—for it will report on both the Communist and Young Communist congresses.

## Five Years Old-Still Going

THE more one thinks about it, the more amazed he becomes. The Bolsheviks, who seized political power in Russia on November 7, 1917, have, in spite of all statements made by the statesmen, bankers, generals and newspaper reporters that their hold on the government would endure but a few more weeks or months, succeeded in sticking to the saddle for five long years. The critical period has been passed. The Communists are now firmly entrenched, and it seems almost impossible to imagine that the Bolsheviks would be overthrown now, after weathering the storm and stress of counter-revolutions, wars, invasions, blockades, famine and the economic breakdown of the whole country. Job himself could not have had any more to suffer from.

The economic life is being re-established. The worst ravages of the great famine have been overcome. Technicians and skilled workers are again coming to the aid of the country. The peasants are being taught to use new and better methods of agriculture and husbandry. A definite commercial treaty has already been made with Germany, and others are under negotiation. Even the most reactionary elements all over the world are now willing to admit that the Soviet regime does not seem likely to collapse so soon.

Some time in the future the story of the heroic struggles of the workers and peasants of Russia will be considered the greatest achievement of all time.

Russia is the one hope for the workers of the world. It is the one hope for the youth of all countries. As long as it remains, the proletariat will know that its cause is not lost.

We greet you, Russia—workers' Russia upon the fifth anniversary. May you continue the good work already begun. We pledge to do our part in hastening the coming of the day this and all other countries will also be controlled by the workers. We shall struggle on for the attainment of a workers' international of nations—a society free from economic and political slavery.

## Agenda of the Y. C. I.

The Executive Committee of the Young Communist International has drawn up the following agenda for the next YCI Congress, to which the Young Workers League will send an Observer:

1. Report of the Fourth Congress of the Comintern.
2. Report on the activity of the E. C. of the Y. C. I.
3. The results of the realization of the decisions of the Second Congress.
4. The economic situation and the struggle of the working class youth.
5. The immediate tasks in the struggle against militarism and the White terror.
6. The program of the Y. C. I.
7. The antagonistic proletarian youth organizations and the united front of the working youth.



“ . . . A magazine more courageous, more instructive, and filled with revolutionary fervor and hatred against all wrong and injustice, would be hard to find.”

So writes Sarah Sabel, secretary of the  
Young Communist League of South Africa

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